

## Direct and Reported Speech

*Direct speech* uses:

- speech marks
- the speaker's actual words
- new speaker, new line
- Narration about who said it can go **before, after or amongst** the speaker's actual words.

*Reported speech*:

- doesn't use speech marks
- changes pronouns, and often also changes word order
- adjusts verb tenses (and time phrases if necessary)
- usually starts by telling you who spoke
- often uses "that..." - but you can omit it

### Part A: *Converting direct to reported speech*

Turn this dialogue into reported speech. **Write on alternate lines** so that there's lots of room for editing and marking.

Tom moaned that they were in an awful situation.

"We're in an awful situation," Tom moaned. Alice said she agreed and she knew of someone who might be able to help them.

"I agree," said Alice, "but I know of someone who may be able to help us."

"Who is it?" Tom asked eagerly. Tom asked eagerly who it was.

"I'm not sure I can tell you," Alice replied. Alice replied that she was not sure she could tell him.

"You can trust me," said Tom. "I'll be really careful." Tom said she could trust him, he would be really careful.

"Stay quiet and let me think," Alice ordered.

Alice ordered Tom to stay quiet and let her think.

### Part B: *Converting reported to direct speech*

Homework

This time, the conversation is in reported speech. Try to reconstruct the original dialogue, using **direct speech** throughout. (*Throughout* = all the way through.)

*Remember: New speaker, new line!*

Alice said she now thought she knew what to do. Tom immediately asked her what her plan was, but Alice replied that she didn't have a plan yet; she was going to ask the person she had been talking about.

Tom asked whether she could tell him who it was. Alice told him not to worry and that he would find out very soon. Tom said that he would carry on clearing up the mess, as there was milkshake everywhere.

Alice said, "I now think I know what to do."

Tom immediately asked her, "what is your plan?"

Alice replied "I don't have a plan yet, I am going to ask the person I have been talking about."

Tom asked, "who is it?" OR Tom asked, "can you tell me who it was?"

Alice said "Don't worry, you will find out very soon."

Tom said, "I will carry on clearing up the mess, as there is milkshake everywhere."